



Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

USDA NASS Colorado Field Office
P.O. Box 150969, Lakewood, CO 80215
Phone 1-800-392-3202 · 1-800-643-6885
e-mail: nass-co@nass.usda.gov

To access USDA-NASS reports <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>

Released: September 15, 2008

Vol. 45 No. 28

Agricultural Summary: Most of Colorado experienced precipitation levels above average for this time of year. Temperatures averaged a little below normal. Producers were allowed 5.3 days in the field for operations. Near normal temperatures continue to help summer crops mature while above average amounts of precipitation should be excellent for the upcoming winter wheat crop.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	5	21	64	10
Last Week	5	30	60	5
Last Year	17	41	39	3

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	13	39	43	5
Last Week	21	42	36	1
Last Year	15	41	42	2

Small Grains: Spring barley was 97 percent harvested in mostly good to fair condition. Spring wheat was 58 percent harvested and is rated in mostly good condition. Winter wheat was 34 percent seeded by the end of the week.

Row Crops: The corn crop completed the dough stage last week. It was 80 percent dented, 34 percent mature, and 2 percent harvested with the crop in mostly fair to good condition. Sorghum was 96 percent turning color, 41 percent mature and 3 percent harvested with the crop in mostly fair condition. Sugarbeets were 2 percent harvested and in mostly good condition.

ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 15, 2008

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn					
This Week	5	11	30	32	22
Last Year	2	4	18	54	22
Sorghum					
This Week	4	13	44	37	2
Last Year	0	0	21	66	13

Pasture, Range, and Hay: Pasture and range conditions across Colorado were rated mostly fair to good. Third cutting alfalfa was 74 percent complete while fourth cutting was 6 percent harvested. The crop was rated in mostly fair to good condition.

Livestock: Death losses for cattle were rated average while sheep and lambs were rated just below average. Stored feed supplies were rated a little above average.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 15, 2008

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2008	8	20	39	26	7
Prev. Year – 2007	3	10	36	42	9
5-Year Avg.	11	22	36	28	3

COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending September 15, 2008

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Spring Barley				
Harvested	97	87	98	96
Spring Wheat				
Harvested	58	50	88	90
Winter Wheat				
Seeded	34	15	19	30
Corn				
Dent	80	57	73	72
Mature	34	11	31	26
Harvested	2	0	1	1
Corn Silage				
Harvested	34	24	51	45
Sorghum				
Turning Color	96	91	74	60
Mature	41	20	36	25
Harvested	3	0	4	1
Dry Beans				
Cut	30	15	40	47
Harvested	15	4	17	20
Alfalfa				
3 rd Cutting	74	55	71	66
4 th Cutting	6	0	4	8
Dry Onions				
Harvested	45	32	52	56
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	2	0	1	1
Fall Potatoes				
Harvested	24	18	14	16
Summer Potatoes				
Harvested	35	30	43	59

COLORADO CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Spring Wheat	5	18	30	32	15
Alfalfa	2	8	35	40	15
Dry Onions	0	4	25	55	16
Summer Potatoes	8	8	15	53	16
Fall Potatoes	9	9	28	42	12
Dry Beans	1	1	33	51	14
Sugarbeets	3	4	19	45	29
Sunflowers	5	14	34	22	25
Livestock	1	6	20	65	8

1/ Crop condition ratings pertain to emerged plants early in the growing season through plants remaining to be harvested late in the season.